SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Sir, my second supplementary is, whether the Government proposes to provide assistance to the State Governments to start such helplines at district level.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, this particular system has been started from the last year. So, we decided, let us see what exactly is the total result and how we are getting response. But fortunately, we have started getting response from all the States. We have succeeded in providing useful information to the affected people. Now on the question whether we should support the State Governments, certainly, we will discuss with the respective State Governments to see whether they can take steps to take the responsibility and if they are ready to take the responsibility, we have no objection to support through the Consumer Welfare Fund.

श्री जय प्रकाश अग्रवाल: बहुत सारे एन॰जी॰ओज़ ऐसे हैं, जो इसमें मदद कर सकते हैं और गवर्नमेंट अगर उनको रजिस्टर करेगी और उनको काम सौंपेगी, तो वह काम हो सकता है, तो मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या इस दिशा में वे कोई कदम उठाएंगे?

श्री शरद पवार: कंज्यूमर वेलफेयर फंड के माध्यम से ऐसे एन॰जी॰ओज़ को मदद करने का एक काम ही है और सबसे ज्यादा मदद एन॰जी॰ओज़ को होती है। इनका सहयोग इस काम के लिए मिले, इसके लिए ज्यादा से ज्यादा मेहनत की जाती है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Leasing out of forest land in Kerala

*284. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of forest land leased out in Kerala for a period beyond two years against the provisions of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and purposes for which such land lease has been made;

(b) whether the Government of Kerala renewed the above leases without attracting the provisions of Forest Conservation Act and whether the State Government sought the permission of the Central Government for the renewal of lease of forest land which stands leased out to various purposes; and

(c) how many lease cases have been signed on or before the expiry of lease period and transferred to other holders violating the provisions of FCA in Kerala and the details of such cases with extent and district-wise statistics thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the State Government of Kerala. After receipt of the information, a statement shall be laid on the Table of the House.

Production of Basmati Rice in India and Pakistan

*287. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan has succeeded in acquiring favourable position in the battle of Basmati rice;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to regain its supremacy in the production of Indian Basmati?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir. From available reports India has a share of around 53% of global basmati trade while Pakistan has around 47% share.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) To continue retaining its hold over the international market and further strengthen production, the Government implements the Integrated Cereal Development Programme in Rice-based Cropping Systems Area (ICDP-Rice), which includes Basmati rice also. Under the scheme, assistance is provided for demonstration of technology, varietal improvement through seed replacement and availability of modern implements.

Assistance for market promotion, infrastructure development and quality upgradation is also provided for exports of Basmati.

Survey of wildlife in Papikonda Game Sanctuary

*289. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there were repeated demands from